



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Public Works

Date: November 19, 2013

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Referral to: Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair Ways and Means/Budget Committee

Subject: **Authorization to Condemn Property for St. Anthony Parkway Bridge
over Northtown Yard**

Recommendation:

Authorize acquisition through negotiations or condemnation of temporary construction easements and permanent easements across the parcels therein for transportation-related uses.

Previous Directives:

- July 19, 2013 - Authorizing execution of a contract with Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc. for design services and authorizing signing the Memorandum of Agreement under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- May 5, 2007 Authorization to submit an application for federal funds from the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) for the St Anthony Bridge Project with a recommendation to commit City funds should the project be selected per federal requirements.

Department Information:

Prepared by: Ole Mersinger, Project Engineer 673-3537

Approved by: _____

Steven A. Kotke, P.E., Director of Public Works

Presenters in Committee: Ole Mersinger, Project Engineer, Department of Public Works, TPE

Reviews

- Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval Y Date 2/28/2013
- Civil Rights Approval Approval Y Date 2/19/2013
- Policy Review Group (PRG): Approval Date Not Applicable

Financial Impact

- No financial impact

Community Impact

- Neighborhood Notification
- City Goals
- Comprehensive Plan
- Zoning Code
- Other

Supporting Information

Public Works has been working to make improvements to the Northtown Rail Yard Bridge since the late 1980's. The bridge is a Warren through truss bridge originally constructed by a predecessor of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Co. (BNSF) in 1925 to carry St. Anthony Parkway over the BNSF Northtown Rail Yard. Though the bridge's poor condition has been addressed to ensure public safety, its condition has continued to decline. The bridge is structurally deficient; has a sufficiency rating of 2.0 out of 100; is fracture critical; and is posted for Vehicle Load and Vertical Clearance Restrictions.

Although initial approval for replacing the bridge has been received from FHWA and design of a new structure is ongoing, the project documents must be in place for final FHWA approval by March 2014. This includes design documents, bid documents, a cost estimate, and all right-of way documents. The design effort is scheduled to have the necessary documents completed by March 2014. Ongoing right-of-way efforts involve obtaining the necessary permanent and temporary property rights to accommodate roadway alignment changes on California Street and Main Street and to accommodate construction of a new bridge structure. There are five distinct parcels owned by 4 corporate entities whose property rights are desired for the project. Negotiations with the parcel owners are ongoing. City staff are requesting authorization for condemnation of the five parcels, as necessary, to maintain the project schedule.

Attachments: Project Map of Parcels
Parcel Resolutions

Cc: CM Reich